

VIS

VI'RU'LENT. *adj.* [*virulent*, Fr. *virulentus*, Lat.]

1. Poisonous; venomous.
2. Poisoned in the mind; bitter; malignant.

VI'RU'LENTLY. *adv.* [*from virulent*.] Malignantly; with bitterness.

VI'SAGE. *n. f.* [*visage*, Fr. *visaggio*, Italian.] Face; countenance; look. It is now rarely used but with some ideas of dislike or horror.

Phebe doth behold

Her silver *visage* in the watry glafs,

Decking with liquid pearl the bladed grafs. *Shakesp.*

When she shall hear this of thee, with her nails

She'll flea thy wolfish *visage*. *Shakesp. K. Lear.*

Whereto serves mercy,

But to confront the *visage* of offence. *Shakesp. Hamlet.*

With hostile frown,

And *visage* all inflam'd, first thus began. *Milton.*

By the rout, that made the hideous roar,

His goary *visage* down the stream was sent;

Down the swift Hebrus to the Lesbian shore. *Milton.*

Love and beauty still that *visage* grace;

Death cannot fright 'em from their wonted place. *Waller.*

To VI'SCERATE. *v. a.* [*viscera*, Latin.] To embowel; to ex-

tricate.

VI'SCID. *adj.* [*viscidus*, Latin.] Glutinous; tenacious.

VI'SCIDITY. *n. f.* [*from viscid*.] Glutinousness; tenacity; ropiness.

1. This motion in some human creatures may be weak, in

respect to the *viscid* of what is taken, so as not to be able

to propel it. *Arbutnot.*

2. Glutinous concretion.

Catharticks of mercurials precipitate the *viscidities* by their

styplicity. *Floyer.*

VI'SCOSITY. *n. f.* [*viscositas*, Fr. *from viscos*.]

1. Glutinousness; tenacity.

The air being mixed with the animal fluids, determines

their condition as to rarity, density, *viscosity*, tenuity. *Arbutnot.*

2. A glutinous substance.

A tenuous emanation, or continued effluvia, after some

distance, retracteth unto itself, as is observable in drops of

syrups, and seminal *viscosities*. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

VI'SCOUNT. *n. f.* [*vicecomes*, Lat.]

Viscount signifies as much as sheriff; between which two

words there is no other difference, but that the one comes

from our conquerors the Normans, and the other from our

ancestors the Saxons. *Viscount* also signifies a degree of no-

bility next to an earl, which is an old name of office, but a

new one of dignity, never heard of amongst us, till Henry

VI. his days. *Cowel.*

VI'SCOUNTESS. *n. f.* [*from viscount*.] *Viscount* and *viscountess*

are pronounced *viscount* and *viscountess*.] The lady of a vis-

count; a peeress of the fourth order.

VI'SCOUS. *adj.* [*visqueux*, Fr. *viscosus*, Lat.] Glutinous; sticky;

tenacious.

The cause of the scouring virtue of nitre is, that it hath

a subtle spirit, which severeth and divideth any thing that is

foul and *viscous*. *Bacon.*

Holly is of so *viscous* a juice as they make bird-lime of

the bark. *Bacon.*

VI'SIBILITY. *n. f.* [*visibilitas*, Fr. *from visibile*.]

1. The state or quality of being perceptible by the eye.

The colours of outward objects brought into a darkened

room, do much depend for their *visibility*, upon the dimness

of the light they are beheld by. *Boyle.*

2. State of being apparent, or openly discoverable; conspic-

uousness.

They produced this as an instance against the perpetual

visibility of the church, and he brings it to prove that it ceased

to be a true church. *Stillingfleet.*

In these, the *visibility* and example of our virtues will

chiefly consist. *Rogers's Sermons.*

VI'SIBLE. *n. f.* [*visibile*, Fr. *visibilis*, Lat.]

1. Perceptible by the eye.

Visibles work upon a looking-glass, which is like the pupil

of the eye; and audibles upon the places of echo, which re-

femble the cavern of the ear. *Bacon.*

On this mount he appeared; under this tree

Stood *visible*;

Here with him at this fountain talk'd. *Milton.*

Each thought was *visible*, that roll'd within,

As through a crystal ale the figur'd hours are seen. *Dryden.*

A long series of ancestors thews the native lustre with

great advantage; but if he degenerate from his line, the least

spot is *visible* on ermine. *Dryden.*

2. Discovered to the eye.

If that the heavens do not their *visible* spirits

Send quickly down to tame the vile offences,

Humanity must perforce prey on itself,

Like monsters of the deep. *Shakesp. K. Lear.*

3. Apparent; open; conspicuous.

The factions at court were greater, or more *visible* than

before. *Clarendon.*

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VI'SIBLENESS. *n. f.* [*from visibile*.] State or quality of being

visible.

VI'SIBLY. *adv.* [*from visibile*.] In a manner perceptible by the

eye.

The day being *visibly* governed by the sun, is a little

longer than the revolution of the equator; so much as is

occasioned by the advance of the sun in his annual contrary

motion along the ecliptick. *Holder.*

By the head we make known more *visibly* our supplications,

our threatnings; enough to see the face, and to understand

the mind at half a word. *Dryden.*

VI'SION. *n. f.* [*visio*, Fr. *visio*, Latin.]

1. Sight; the faculty of seeing.

Anatomists, when they have taken off from the bottom of

the eye that outward and most thick coat called the dura

mater, can then see through the thinner coats, the pictures

of objects lively painted thereon. And these pictures, propa-

gated by motion along the fibres of the optic nerves into

the brain, are the cause of *vision*. *Newton's Opticks.*

These theorems being admitted into optics, there would be

scope enough of handling that science voluminously, after a

new manner; not only by teaching those things which tend

to the perfection of *vision*, but also by determining mathe-

matically all kinds of phenomena of colours which could be

produced by refractions. *Newton's Opticks.*

2. The act of seeing.

Visio in the next life is the perfecting of faith in this;

or faith here is turned into *vision* there, as hope into en-

joying. *Hammond's Pract. Catechism.*

3. A supernatural appearance; a spectre; a phantom.

The day seems long, but night is odious;

No sleep, but dreams; no dreams, but *visions* strange. *Sidney.*

Last night the very gods shew'd me a *vision*. *Shakesp.*

God's mother deigned to appear to me;

And, in a *vision*, full of majesty,

Will'd me to leave my base vocation. *Shakesp. Hen. VI.*

He call'd by *vision*, from his father's house,

Into a land which he will shew him. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

4. A dream; something shewn in a dream. A dream happens

to a sleeping; a *vision* may happen to a waking man. A

dream is supposed natural, a *vision* miraculous; but they are

confounded.

His dream returns; his friend appears again;

The murderers come; now help, or I am slain!

'Twas but a *vision* still, and *visions* are but vain. *Dryden.*

The idea of any thing in our mind, no more proves the

existence of that thing, than the *visions* of a dream make a

true history. *Lect.*

VI'SIONARY. *adj.* [*visionnaire*, Fr. *from visio*.]

1. Affected by phantoms; disposed to receive impressions on

the imagination.

No more these scenes my meditation aid,

Or lull to rest the *visionary* maid. *Pope's Eloisa to Alford.*

2. Imaginary; not real; seen in a dream; perceived by the

imagination only.

The hounds at nearer distance hoarsely bray'd;

The hunter close pursu'd the *visionary* maid. *Dryden.*

If you have any skill in dreams, let me know whether I

have the same place in the real heart, that I had in the *vi-*

visionary one. *Addison.*

Our victories only led us to further *visionary* prospects;

advantage was taken of the sanguine temper which success

had wrought the nation up to. *Swift.*

VI'SIONARY. *n. f.* [*visionnaire*, Fr.] One whose imagination is

visionary. } disturbed.

The lovely *visionary* gave him perpetual uneasiness. *Fem. Quix.*

To VI'SIT. *v. a.* [*visiter*, Fr. *visite*, Lat.]

1. To go to see.

You must go *visit* the lady that lies in. — I *visit* her with

my prayers; but I cannot go thither. *Shakesp. Coriolanus.*

Virgins *visited* by angel powers. *Pope.*

2. [In scriptural language.] To send good or evil judi-

cially.

When God *visiteth*, what shall I answer him? *Job xxxi. 14.*

Thou shalt be *visited* of the Lord with thunder. *Isa. xxix. 6.*

When I *visit*, I will *visit* their sin upon them. *Ex. xxxii. 34.*

God *visit* thee in good things. *Judith xiii. 20.*

That venerable body is in little concern after what manner

their mortal enemies intend to treat them, whenever God

shall *visit* us with so fatal an event. *Swift.*

3. To salute with a present.

Samson *visited* his wife with a kid. *Judges xv. 1.*

4. To come to a survey, with judicial authority.

The bishop ought to *visit* his diocese every year in

person. *Shakesp. Coriolanus.*

To VI'SIT. *v. n.* To keep up the intercourse of ceremonial

salutations at the houses of each other.

VI'SIT. *n. f.* [*visite*, Fr. *from the verb*.] The act of going to

see another.

In a designed or accidental *visit*, let some one take a book,

which may be agreeable, and read in it. *Watts.*

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VI'SITABLE. *adj.* [*from visit*.] Liable to be visited.

All hospitals built since the reformation, are *visitabile* by the

king or lord chancellor. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

VI'SITANT. *n. f.* [*from visit*.] One who goes to see another.

He alone

To find where Adam shelter'd, took his way,

Not unperceiv'd of Adam, who to Eve,

While the great *visitant* approach'd, thus spake. *Milton.*

One *visit* begins an acquaintance; and when the *visitant*

comes again, he is no more a stranger. *South.*

Edward the first, who had been a *visitant* in Spain, upon

action in the holy land, fixed both our pounds by the measures

of the East. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

Griev'd that a *visitant* so long shou'd wait

Unmark'd, unhonour'd, at a monarch's gate,

Instant he flew. *Pope's Odyssey. b. i. l. 160.*

VI'SITATION. *n. f.* [*visita*, Latin.]

1. The act of visiting.

He comes not

Like to his father's greatness; his approach,

So out of circumstance and sudden, tells us,

'Tis not a *visitation* fram'd, but forc'd. *Shakesp. Winter Tale.*

By need and accident.

What would you with the princeps? —

— Nothing but peace and gentle *visitation*. *Shakespeare.*

2. Object of visits.

O slow'rs,

My early *visitation*, and my last. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

3. [*Visitation*, Fr.] Judicial visit or perambulation.

The bishop ought to visit his diocese every year in person,

unless he omits the same because he would not burden his

churches; and then ought to send his arch-deacon, which

was the original of the arch-deacon's *visitation*. *Ayliffe.*

4. Judicial visit by God; state of suffering judicial evil.

That which thou dost not understand when thou readest,

thou shalt understand in the day of thy *visitation*. For many

secrets of religion are not perceived till they be felt, and are

not felt but in the day of a great calamity. *Taylor.*

5. Communication of divine love.

The most comfortable *visitations* God hath sent men from

above, have taken especially the times of prayer as their most

natural opportunities. *Hooker.*

VI'SITATORIAL. *adj.* [*from visitor*.] Belonging to a judicial

visitor.

Some will have it, that an archdeacon does of common

right execute this *visitatorial* power in his archdeaconry; but

others say that an archdeacon has a *visitatorial* power only of

common right *per modum simplicis scrutini*, as being bishop's

vicar. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

VI'SITER. *n. f.* [*from visit*.]

1. One who comes to see another.

Here's ado to look up honestly and honour from the access